2. (Twice Amended)   An image processing apparatus comprising:

image input means for inputting a plurality of images of one composition which are picked up under different exposure

5   conditions;

correction parameter calculating means for determining correction parameters between the plurality of images input from the image input means;

image display means for displaying the plurality of images

10   input from the image input means;

correction parameter setting means for adjusting the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculating means, while differences in brightness between the plurality of images displayed by the image display means are

15   being checked by a user;

brightness correcting means for correcting the brightness of said at least one image in accordance with the correction parameters adjusted by the correction parameter setting means; and

20   image synthesizing means for synthesizing the plurality of images including said at least one image, the brightness of which is corrected by the brightness correcting means.

10. (Twice Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the correction parameters[, in accordance with differences in brightness between said plurality of images displayed by said] determined by the correction

5   parameter calculating means are exposure time ratios at which the plurality of images to be input by the image input means are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting means has a function of displaying an imaginary adjustment knob on a display screen of the image display means such that each of

10   the exposure time ratios is adjustable by a user.

14. (Twice Amended) An image processing method comprising:

     an image input step of inputting a plurality of images of one composition which are picked up under different exposure conditions;

     a correction parameter calculating step of determining correction parameters between the plurality of images input during the image input step;

     an image display step of displaying the plurality of images input during the image input step;

10   a correction parameter setting step of adjusting the correction parameters determined during the correction parameter calculating step, while differences in brightness between the plurality of images displayed during the image display step are being checked by a user;

-3-

15   a brightness correcting step of correcting the brightness of

said at least one image in accordance with the correction

parameters adjusted during the correction parameter setting step;

and

an image synthesizing step of synthesizing the plurality of

20   images including said at least one image, the brightness of which

is corrected during the brightness correcting step.

20. (Twice Amended) The image processing method according to

claim 14, wherein said correction parameters determined during

the correction parameter calculating step are exposure time

ratios at which the plurality of images to be input during the

image input step are picked up, respectively, and the correction

parameter setting step displays an imaginary adjustment knob on a

display screen such that each of the exposure time ratios is

adjustable by a user.

22. (Twice Amended) A recording medium recording computer

programs for correcting a plurality of images obtained by taking

one composition with different exposures, to provide an image

having a desired brightness, said recording medium comprising:

an image inputting program for inputting a plurality of

images of one composition which are picked up under different

exposure conditions;

a correction parameter calculating program for determining correction parameters between the plurality of images input from the image inputting program;

image display program for displaying the plurality of images input from the image inputting program;

a correction parameter setting program for adjusting the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculating program, while differences in brightness between the plurality of images displayed by the image display program are being checked by a user;

a brightness correcting program for correcting the brightness of said at least one image in accordance with the correction parameters adjusted by the correction parameter setting means; and

an image synthesizing program for synthesizing the plurality of images including said at least one image, the brightness of which is corrected by the brightness correcting means.

28. (Twice Amended) The recording medium according to claim 22, wherein said correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculating program are exposure time ratios at which the plurality of images to be input by the image inputting program are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting program has a function of displaying an imaginary adjustment knob on a display screen during the image

-5-

display step such that each of the exposure time ratios is adjustable by a user.

29. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculating means are aperture ratios at which the plurality of images to be input by the image input means are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting means has a function of displaying an imaginary adjustment knob on a display screen of the image display means such that each of the aperture ratios is adjustable by a user.

30. (New) An image processing apparatus comprising:

an image input device which inputs a plurality of images of one composition which are picked up under different exposure conditions;

a correction parameter calculator which determines correction parameters between the plurality of images input from the image input device;

an image display device which displays the plurality of images input from the image input means;

a correction parameter setting device which adjusts the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculator, while differences in brightness between the plurality

of images displayed by the image display device are being checked by a user;

15   a brightness corrector which corrects the brightness of said at least one image in accordance with the correction parameters adjusted by the correction parameter setting device; and

an image synthesizing device which synthesizes the plurality of images including said at least one image, the brightness of

20   which is corrected by the brightness corrector.

31. (Twice Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculator are exposure time ratios at which the plurality of images to be input by the

5   image input device are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting device has a function of displaying an imaginary adjustment knob on a display screen of the image display device such that each of the exposure time ratios is adjustable by a user.

32.   (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculator means are aperture ratios at which the plurality of images to be input by the image input

5   device are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting device has a function of displaying an imaginary

-7-

adjustment knob on a display screen of the image display device such that each of the aperture ratios is adjustable by a user.

33.   (New)   The image processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculating step are aperture ratios at which the plurality of images to be input during the image input step are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting step has a function of displaying an imaginary adjustment knob on a display screen during the image display step such that each of the aperture ratios is adjustable by a user.

34.   (New)   The image processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the correction parameters determined by the correction parameter calculating program are aperture ratios at which the plurality of images to be input by the image inputting program are picked up, respectively, and the correction parameter setting program has a function of displaying an imaginary adjustment knob on a display screen such that each of the aperture ratios is adjustable by a user.